

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 171493

67

ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY NEA:ARDAY:LB

APPROVED BY P:PHABIB

NEA:ALATHERTON

M:LSEAGLEBURGER

S/S -O:J.HOGANSON

OSD:WCLEMENTS (SUBSTANCE PARA 1)

M/DG:CLAISE (SUBSTANCE)

----- 097994

O 102337Z JUL 76 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT NIACT IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 171493

EXDIS, FOR AMBASSADOR FROM HABIB AND EAGLEBURGER

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: APER, PFOR, LE

SUBJECT: EMBASSY BEIRUT STAFFING

REFERENCE: BEIRUT 5853, 6045

1. YOU ARE AUTHORIZED TO MAKE CHANGES IN EMBASSY STAFF RECOMMENDED REFTEL. THIS WILL MEAN ELIMINATING: TWO SECRETARIAL SLOTS, ONE CONSULAR OFFICER AND THE JUNIOR ATTACHE AND ENLISTED SLOT FROM THE DATT OFFICE. OTHER QUESTIONS IN YOUR 5853 REGARDING INDIVIDUAL ASSIGNMENTS ARE STILL BEING WORKED ON BACK HERE AND WE WILL LET YOU KNOW AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

2. WE ARE VERY MUCH AWARE, HOWEVER, THAT THE SECURITY SITUATION WITH CONSEQUENT DANGERS TO PERSONNEL AND LIMITATIONS ON THEIR EFFECTIVENESS, INDICATES THAT WE SHOULD MAKE FURTHER, SHARPER CUTS. WE ARE CONSIDERING YOUR SUGGESTION

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THAT WHEN YOU DEPART WE

LEAVE A CHARGE' IN CHARGE AND MAKE SUCH FURTHER PERSONNEL CUTS. WE WOULD LIKE YOUR RECOMMENDATION SOONEST FOR REDUCTIONS TO GET DOWN TO A TOTAL OF 20 AND, ALTERNATIVELY, A TOTAL OF 25 PEOPLE IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES.

3. IF WE DO LEAVE CHARGE' AFTER YOUR DEPARTURE, OUR CURRENT THOUGHT WOULD BE TO LEAVE RAY HUNT THERE FOR A FEW WEEKS TO HELP MAKE THE TRANSITION. ROBINSON

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NNN

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